

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 9, 11-13 and 16-20 have been amended herewith. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Anticipation

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3, 9, 11, 17, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Avery (US 6,611,883). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to Claim 1, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed steps of receiving a service request from a client and looking up the queue pair number associated to the requested service (that was received). In rejecting the 'receiving a service request' aspect of Claim 1, the Examiner cites Avery's teaching at col. 2, lines 40-51 as teaching 'host and I/O devices have work queues that send and receive instructions that specify a process'. Applicants urge that to the contrary, this passage states that "The receive queue can receive instructions *which specify to a process* where to place data received from another process". The word "to" in this passage completely changes the meaning from the interpretation being given by the Examiner. The receive queue specifies to an internal process where to place data, which is different from receiving a service request that is requesting a service. Applicants have amended Claim 1 to further clarify this distinction.

In addition, Claim 1 has been amended to expressly recite that the central server looks up the queue pair number associated to the requested service using the queue-pair-number map in response to receiving the service request from the client. The teachings of the cited reference do not teach any such central server that operates per these features of Claim 1. Thus, it is further urged that Claim 1 is not anticipated by the cited reference.

With respect to Claim 3, such claim has been amended to emphasize the inter-node aspect of the present invention which facilitates the determination of parameters needed to communicate with a remote node in a computer network. The passages cited by the Examiner in rejecting the 'reply' aspect of Claim 3 are with respect to intra-node processing of a DMA context scoreboard used to prefetch data from a local memory, and have nothing to do with inter-node replies having both (1) the address of the node hosting the requested service, and (2) the queue pair number associated with the requested service. Thus, it is urged that amended Claim 3 is not anticipated by the cited reference.

Applicants traverse the rejection of Claims 9 and 17 for similar reasons to those given above with respect to Claim 1.

Applicants traverse the rejection of Claims 11 and 20 for similar reasons to those given above with respect to Claim 3.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1, 3, 9, 11, 17, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The Examiner rejected Claims 5-7, 13-15, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Avery (US 6,611,883) in view of DeJager et al. (US 6,473,424). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to Claim 5, such claim has been amended to emphasize the inter-node aspect of the present invention which facilitates the determination of parameters needed to communicate with a remote node in a computer network. The passages cited by the Examiner in rejecting Claim 5 are with respect to intra-node processing of a DMA context scoreboard used to prefetch data from a local memory, and have nothing to do with inter-node replies which contain attributes necessary for communication with a requested service at a remote node. Thus, it is urged that amended Claim 5 is not obvious in view of the cited references as there are missing claimed features not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Applicants traverse the rejection of Claims 6 and 7 for reasons given above with respect to Claim 5 (of which Claims 6 and 7 depend upon).

Applicants traverse the rejection of Claims 13-15 and 19 for similar reasons to those given above with respect to Claim 5.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 5-7, 13-15 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

III. Objection to Claims

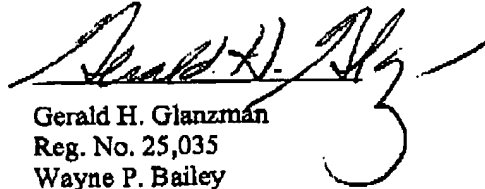
The Examiner stated that Claims 4, 8, 12, 16 and 18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, the claims have been rewritten accordingly to overcome this objection, and Applicants graciously acknowledge the allowability of such claims.

IV. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited references and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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